



**Clean Copy of Claims, As Amended
In The Preliminary Amendment Filed in Response to the
Restriction Requirement Dated 24 April 2001**

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1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence which is at least 90% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof;

b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 100 nucleotide residues and having a nucleotide sequence identical to at least 100 consecutive nucleotide residues of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof;

c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46;

d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes at least 18 consecutive amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46; and

e) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a variant of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, wherein the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46 or a complement thereof under stringent conditions.

24. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a sequence which is at least 90% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof.

25. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 24, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a sequence which is at least 95% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof.

26. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises at least 100 nucleotide residues and has a nucleotide sequence identical to at least 100 consecutive nucleotide residues of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof.

27. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 26, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises at least 150 nucleotide residues and has a nucleotide sequence identical to at least 150 consecutive nucleotide residues of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof

28. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 27, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises at least 500 nucleotide residues and has a nucleotide sequence identical to at least 500 consecutive nucleotide residues of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof

29. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

30. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes at least 18 consecutive amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

31. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 30, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes at least 25 consecutive amino acid residues of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

32. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule encodes a variant of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, wherein the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46 or a complement thereof under stringent conditions.

33. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 30, wherein the polypeptide exhibits lipase activity.

2. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:

a) a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof; and

b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

5. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

6. The host cell of claim 5 which is a mammalian host cell.

34. (New) The host cell of claim 5, which is a prokaryotic host cell.

7. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

12. (Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46;

b) a polypeptide comprising at least 18 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46; and

c) a variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions;

the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.

35. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

36. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide comprises at least 18 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46.

37. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is a variant of the polypeptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 45 or 46, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions.

38. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the polypeptide exhibits lipase activity.